

# MOONLIGHT BASIN

## **2007 ODP Approval – Condition #1**

*Upon submittal of each phase of development, Moonlight Basin shall show recent and proposed efforts made toward implementing the Fire Management Operations Guide / Fuels Management Plan.*

In 2007, Moonlight worked on 18 acres of fuels mitigation along the Madison Road from Moonlight Basin entryway westward. The mitigation included mature timber treatment of dead and down, ladder fuels within 20' of mature timber crowns and select diseased trees removed. The regeneration timber treatment included tree spacing average 8' (+/- 2'), leave trees preferred Douglas Fir and Engelmann Spruce, and select diseased trees were removed. Our community outreach included an article in the Moonlight Basin Employee Newsletter reaching up to 400 staff, roadside signage, and a presentation in an outdoor educational program.

Moonlight currently is in discussions the MT DNRC on a biomass feasibility study. This effort was delayed during the bankruptcy years, but we are slowly moving forward. It is our hope that a heat generating biomass plant is feasible, creating a market for the wood products that would be developed through fuels mitigation projects.

Moonlight's fire mitigation measures also include Red Card training and training on our wildland fire engine. Our fire engine is a fully equipped Class 6 fire engine with a 1,000 gallon portable water tank and a 500 gallon on truck tank. Ten individuals from the Moonlight have been historically trained to be "red-carded" for response to wild fires. In addition, bi-weekly training scenarios were conducted throughout previous summer seasons.